

Burr Oak.—Ten of us Oaks, out of about 300, live in this State. Brother White Oak is by far the most common and well-known. He is the senior member of our family and has attained a very great age. He never thrives in perfection except in a good soil and in a temperate climate. The Michigan people are proud that so many of our family live with them.

Tulip Tree.—White Oak is certainly loyal to his family, but I should like to hear the uses of his tree.

Burr Oak.—Every particle of him is useful, even to his ashes. His bark is used for tanning leather; his wood is hard, compact, heavy, tough and durable, good for heavy waggons, plows, railroad ties, fence posts, ship timber, furniture, and finishing the interior of houses.

Swamp White Oak (Leona).—As much of my timber is so nearly like that of White Oak, and often passes for it, I will say, as a tree, "I am beautiful in every stage of my growth; at first, light, slender, delicate and waving; at last, broad, massive and grand, but always graceful."

Chestnut Oak (James).—Emerson says of White Oak: "As an ornament to the landscape, or as a single object, no other tree is to be compared with it, in every period of its growth, for picturesqueness, majesty, and inexhaustible variety of beauty. When standing alone it throws out its mighty arms with an air of force and grandeur which have made it everywhere to be considered the fittest emblem of strength and power of resistance. Commonly the oak braves the storm to the last, without yielding, better than any other tree. The limbs go out at a great angle and stretch horizontally to a vast distance."

Laurel Oak (John).—The famous A. J. Downing said: "There are no grander or more superb trees than our American oaks. We are fully disposed to concede it the first rank among the denizens of the forest. As an ornamental object we consider the oak the most varied in expression, the most beautiful, grand, majestic and picturesque of all deciduous trees."

Black Jack Oak (Herbert).—Poetry, history, mythology and romance abound in references to the oak. I should like to hear from our fellow trees some common quotations in reference to the oak.

White Ash (Myrtie).—"The unwedgeable and gnarled oak."

Black Ash (Ella).—"The old oaken bucket."

Sugar Maple (Louise).—"Jove's own tree that holds the woods in awful sovereignty."

Red Maple (Anna).—"A goodly oak, whose boughs were mass'd with age."

Scarlet Oak (Ben).—"King of the woods."

Blue Ash (Amy).—"Thy guardian oaks, my country, are thy boast."

Silver Maple (Kate).—"The monarch oak, the patriarch of trees."

Butternut (Burke).—"The oak for grandeur, strength and noble size, excels all trees that in the forest grow."

Black Walnut (Frank).—"Tall oaks from little acorns grow."

Buttonwood (Harrison).—

"Woodman, forbear thy stroke!
Cut not its earth-bound ties;
Oh, spare that aged oak,
Now towering to the Skies!"

Sassafras (Henry).—

"Behold yon oak,
How stern he frowns."

Pepperidge (Walter).—"The glory of the woods."

Buckeye (Samuel).—

"Proud monarch of the forest!
That once, a sapling bough,
Didst quail far more at evening's breath
Than at the tempest now.
Strange scenes have passed, long ages roll'd
Since first upon thy stem,
Then weak as osier twig, spring set
Her leafy diadem."